



Weird is our jump-off series for the new school year. Here, we will see that being weird can and is OK! Jesus was weird and he calls us to be weird. In this series we will look at: Being Weird is Good; how to be Weird with our Time, Money, People Pleasing and Life. God doesn't want us to be normal like the world around us, he desires us to be weird. This series will look at how we can build community by being weird as well as how those who don't know Christ can become weird like him!

# BEING WEIRD IS GOOD

## Small Group Questions



### INTRODUCTION:

Being Weird is not generally a sought after feature of the typical Middle School student. Yet, it can't be ignored how utterly weird Jesus and his followers were. They did things differently, they didn't fit the normal model of their day and they did wonderful and amazing things!

**Matthew 7:13-14; Luke 13:24; John 6:51** Jesus talked about a wide and narrow road as well as a wide and narrow door. The wide door was the normal worldly people, worrying about normal life. Many people Jesus said go down this road and few find the narrow way, the weird way. Going with the flow, trying to fit in is the dangerous path, while going down the narrow, weird way is better. Jesus says that we should strive to be weird, we should try to be different because the weird way leads to life, not death. The disciples had a hard time with this teaching just as all of us in this room are having a tough time with it now. Jesus said some really WEIRD stuff (John 6:51) and asked his people to do really weird stuff as well. However, these disciples eventually chose the path of the weird and they ended up being used by God to effect the whole world as well as the worlds history!

### DISCUSSION:

- What are some weird things you have seen people do?
- What are some weird things Jesus said while he was alive? (refer them back to John 6:51)
- Why do you think Jesus was weird?

### EXPLANATION:

Jesus talked about the wide and the narrow road. He says that normal people (most) end up on the wide road which leads to destruction and the weird (very few) find the road which leads to life.

- How are the two groups different?
- What do you think the narrow road is all about? (here explain the Gospel of Jesus taking our sins)

### APPLICATION:

- Knowing that Jesus says the narrow road is worth finding and being weird is how we get there, I challenge you to be weird like Jesus. Luke 13:24 says for us to strive, work to find the narrow gate. Jesus died for us so we can find it. Jesus wants us to know he died for our sins and our lives are not about us but about Him.

# WEIRD WITH TIME

## Small Group Questions



### INTRODUCTION:

Luke 10:38-40;

Too often our lives get sucked away by stupid things. Too many of us waste our lives in front of the TV, watching movies, shows and playing video games. These things can be good, but too much of them can be detrimental to our lives. We miss that the real God of the Universe desires our time. He desires to know us and for us to know him. In the story of Mary and Martha, Mary gets it: life is about knowing Jesus, nothing more. Martha thought it was about pleasing Jesus by serving all the time, but it's all about knowing Him. When we take time out to know God, we will serve when its needed. Nothing is more important than knowing God in our lives. Sports, movies, video games, reading and all of those things can be good, but not to where they take up all of your time and life.

### DISCUSSION:

- How important is your time to you?
- How much time do you spend: watching TV? Playing video games? Reading? Hanging with friends?
- Could you spend your time differently?

### EXPLANATION:

We can spend our time doing so many things, good things even. However, we can spend so much time with the good things that we miss the best thing.

- Have you spend too much time doing other things that have caused you to miss the best thing (Jesus)?
- Where do you think Martha missed the point?

### APPLICATION:

Jesus desires us to be with him and not miss Him. When we spend some time getting to know Him, it changes our lives and gives us the ability to do better at the other things in our lives. I challenge you to read one chapter of John (or do the Bible readings from Quest) each night for a month. Ask God to show up. Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and see what God does.



# WEIRD WITH MONEY

## Small Group Questions



## INTRODUCTION:

1 Timothy 6:10; Matthew 6:24

Being “Normal” when it comes to money is making money your god. It invades the commercials we watch, the lives we live and the things we buy. Our culture is so obsessed with money that when the stock market crashed, people committed suicide. Sure money is needed to purchase things we need, but it also a huge tempting factor to get things we don’t need. We sometimes will go to great lengths in order to earn money for the things we desire. Being weird with money is asking God how to treat money. Right now, none of you have jobs, but you still want money. Some of you may worship stuff and you just can’t seem to get enough stuff. Worship God rather than money, because you can serve two masters. Loving money is the root of all kinds of evil, so be weird, not normal like my uncle.

## DISCUSSION:

- What do you spend most of your money on?
- When you think about money, what comes to mind?
- Why is money so important?

## EXPLANATION:

Many people spend their lives in pursuit of more money and more stuff. The Normal world around us loves money and in fact they love it so much they worship it, they worship what they can get with it as well.

- Why do you think it’s more important to worship God rather than money?
- What are some things people are willing to let go of in order to get a hold of money?

## APPLICATION:

Don’t be normal! Don’t allow money to control your thoughts and your life. Realize that money is simply a tool for survival and a little fun, not an object that needs to be worshipped. Recognize that money doesn’t save you, Jesus does! My challenge is for you to find ways you can donate part of the money you get each month...not a lot, but I desire you to experience what giving is like!

# WEIRD W/PPL PLEASING

## Small Group Questions



### INTRODUCTION:

Galatians 1:10

Having others accept us and adore us is a huge piece of life. We desire a place to belong to, we desire people to desire our company and we want people to praise us for being awesome. It's a natural thing to want people to love us and to have everyone happy with us. However, this is not the best for us. Our lives should be focused on pleasing God, so we need to be weird with pleasing people, so weird that we get to the place that we don't care what they think about us, but only care about what God thinks!

### DISCUSSION:

- Do you find you care a lot about what others think of you? If so, how much do you care on a scale from 1-10?
- Do you change the way you act in order to fit in with certain people? If so, why?
- Have you seen others change themselves to be liked? If so, explain and share a story

### EXPLANATION:

Many people struggle with people pleasing. This is why peer pressure has so much strength, because we desire our peers to like us and we want them to think highly of us, so we give in. God shares with us in the Bible that the opinions of others don't mean anything compared to his opinion of us. God loves us more than anyone else in this world ever will or can.

- Where can you pay more attention to God's opinions of you in your life?
- Whose opinion really matters to you in life?
- Have you given your life to Christ?

### APPLICATION:

When we give our lives to Christ, we have the power of the Spirit living inside of us so we can live a life pleasing to God. He helps us turn away from pleasing others and leads us to pleasing God. When you are in the midst of doing something against what God would desire of you, the feeling you get in your stomach or heart of "This is wrong" comes from God. Listen to His Spirit and decide against the things that pull you away from Him. That's my challenge to you today!

# WEIRD WITH LIFE

## Small Group Questions



### INTRODUCTION:

Hebrews 2:1; Romans 12:1-2

It is easy to drift from God, if we are not paying close attention to our lives and our walk with Jesus. The enemy doesn't want you to desire God or the church. In fact, Satan wants you to desire nothing to do with God and if you feel that way, Satan is winning the battle for your heart. Because drifting is easy, we have to be weird with our lives. We have to be living sacrifices. Our lives need to be surrounded by God.

### DISCUSSION:

- Many people drift from God because they are not surrounding themselves with God. Give some examples of people you know this has happened to?
- In life, it's easy to be normal and hard to be weird. Why is it so hard to be weird?

### EXPLANATION:

We're called to live a life that is weird. Being together as a community, loving one another despite our differences is a weird thing to do. Being a living sacrifice means we are living our lives to live for God.

- How can we love each other more?
- How can we be a body of believers that is a weird community?

### APPLICATION:

Our lives need to be surrounded by God. Here are 4 ways to help you stop the drift and get closer to God.

READ THE BIBLE  
WORSHIP GOD  
GET INVOLVED AT CHURCH  
PRAY

These are weird things to be about with your life. So many things around you will tell you these are silly things to be about...the "normal" things that is. Be weird though, strive to please God, strive to follow the narrow road!